INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat: Application No PCT/GB 03/03023

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C25B1/24 C25B C25B9/18 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C25B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category 9 Relevant to claim No. US 4 950 370 A (TARANCON GREGORIO) 21 August 1990 (1990-08-21) 1-23 column 1, line 6-10 column 2, line 56-62 column 13, line 62 -column 14, line 50 A,P EP 1 283 280 A (TOYO TANSO CO) 1-23 12 February 2003 (2003-02-12) the whole document & WO 01 77412 A (TAKEBAYASHI HITOSHI; TOYO Α TANSO CO (JP); HIRAIWA JIRO (JP); TADA Y) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but died to understand the principle or theory underlying the investigation. "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention earlier document but published on or after the International *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the continuous continuou document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 31 October 2003 06/11/2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Hammerstein, G Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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Information on patent family members

Internati plication No
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